

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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|------------------|---|-------------------|------|
| Applicants:      | Bogdan Radu et al.  | Confirmation No.: | 5462 |
| Serial No.:      | 10/711,463  |                   |      |
| Filing Date:     | September 20, 2004  |                   |      |
| Examiner:        | Jeremy Austin Luks  |                   |      |
| Art Unit:        | 2837  |                   |      |
| Title:           | DOOR TRIM SPEAKER GRILLE WITH ELECTROLUMINESCENT LAMP AND INJECTION MOLDING METHOD OF MAKING SAME |                   |      |
| Attorney Docket: | MASLIAC-59  |                   |      |

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants' undersigned counsel notes the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached with the Notice of Allowability. The reasons set forth by the Examiner refer only to some of the features in independent claim 1, and are not the only reasons that all of the claims are allowable.

With respect to independent claim 1, the prior art fails to disclose or suggest an automotive interior component comprising a speaker grille mounted to a door trim panel, said speaker grille with a plurality of sound passages for transmitting sound emitted by an audio speaker of a vehicle; and an electroluminescent lamp positioned between the audio speaker and said speaker grille, said electroluminescent lamp oriented for emitting visible light, when powered, through said sound passages, wherein said speaker grille and said electroluminescent lamp comprise a unitary molded assembly. Dependent claims 2, 3, 7, and 8 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1. Accordingly, each of dependent claims 2, 3, 7, and 8 is believed to be allowable based upon at least the allowability of independent claim 1 and, furthermore, upon other features set forth in dependent claims 2, 3, 7, and 8 but not discussed herein.

If the Examiner disagrees with any of these comments, he is respectfully requested to provide further explanation on the record. Applicants do not believe any fees are due in connection with filing this communication. If, however, any fees are necessary as a result of this communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any under-payment or fees associated with this communication or credit any over-payment to Deposit Account No. 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

September 24, 2007  
Date

/William R. Allen/  
William R. Allen, Ph.D.  
Reg. No. 48,389  
WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.  
2700 Carew Tower  
441 Vine Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202  
Telephone: (513) 241-2324  
Facsimile: (513) 241-6234